IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A voice amplifier for attachment to a mask, ~~the~~ said voice amplifier comprising: a speaker having a front face that faces inwardly of said mask when said voice amplifier is attached to said mask; a sound reflector having a reflector surface that faces outwardly of ~~the~~ said mask when ~~the~~ said voice amplifier is attached to ~~the~~ said mask; a base connected with ~~the~~ said sound reflector; ~~and a~~ , said speaker supported on ~~the~~ said base ~~and facing towards~~ such that said front face of said speaker faces towards ~~the~~ said reflector surface of said sound reflector, said front face of said speaker designed to generate sound waves that travel toward said reflector surface, said reflector surface designed to reflect said sound waves generated from said speaker back toward said speaker and outwardly from said mask when said amplifier is attached to said mask.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said sound reflector supports ~~the~~ said base and ~~the~~ said speaker on ~~the~~ said mask, at least a portion of said base positioned between said speaker and said sound reflector.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said front face of said speaker has a conical configuration centered on an axis and tapering radially inward in a direction away from ~~the~~ said mask.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ at least a portion of said sound reflector and ~~the~~ said base are spaced apart thereby defining a peripheral gap between them, said sound waves emitted from ~~the~~ said speaker being reflected off ~~the~~ said sound

reflector and exiting ~~the~~ said voice amplifier through ~~the~~ said peripheral gap.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A voice amplifier according to claim 4 wherein~~ A voice amplifier for attachment to a mask, said voice amplifier comprising a sound reflector having a reflector surface that faces outwardly of the mask when the voice amplifier is attached to the mask, a base connected with the sound reflector, and a speaker supported on said base and facing inwards towards said reflector surface, ~~the~~ said sound reflector ~~has~~ having a circular shape with a perimeter and an outer diameter, ~~the~~ said base ~~is~~ comprising a lower base portion and an upper base portion, ~~the~~ said upper base portion having a generally semicircular shape with an outer diameter that is smaller than ~~the~~ said outer diameter of ~~the~~ said perimeter of ~~the~~ said sound reflector thereby defining a gap between ~~the~~ said upper base portion and ~~the~~ said perimeter of ~~the~~ said sound reflector, said sound reflector and said base are spaced apart thereby defining a peripheral gap between them, sound waves emitted from said speaker being reflected off said sound reflector and exiting said voice amplifier through said peripheral gap.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 1, wherein said sound waves that emanate from ~~the~~ said speaker inward towards ~~the~~ said sound reflector, reflect off ~~the~~ said sound reflector and exit ~~the~~ said voice amplifier through an outer peripheral gap between ~~the~~ said base and ~~the~~ said perimeter of ~~the~~ said sound reflector and thence travel outwardly from ~~the~~ said mask.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 1, comprising switch ~~a~~ and a movable switch actuator mounted on ~~the~~ said front of ~~the~~ said voice amplifier.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 1, comprising a magnetically actuated switch and a movable magnetic switch actuator mounted on ~~the~~ said front of the voice amplifier.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier ~~as set forth in~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ a cover has an outer surface portion facing away from ~~the~~ said mask, said voice amplifier further comprising a circuit board located within ~~the~~ said housing at a location not between ~~the~~ said speaker and ~~the~~ said outer surface portion of ~~the~~ said cover.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A voice amplifier as set forth in claim 1 further including~~ A voice amplifier for attachment to a mask, said voice amplifier comprising a sound reflector having a reflector surface that faces outwardly of the mask when the voice amplifier is attached to the mask, a base connected with the sound reflector, a speaker supported on said base and facing inwards towards said reflector surface, and a cover connected with ~~the~~ said base ~~and wherein the~~ , said cover ~~has~~ having a front wall with a front surface facing away from ~~the~~ said mask when ~~the~~ said voice amplifier is attached to ~~the~~ said mask, ~~the~~ said speaker ~~has~~ having a wide end and a narrow end, ~~the~~ said narrow end of ~~the~~ said speaker being located closer to ~~the~~ said front wall of ~~the~~ said cover than

~~the~~ said wide end, ~~and the~~ said cover front wall ~~has~~ having a profile that follows ~~the~~ said profile of ~~the~~ said speaker in a direction from ~~the~~ said narrow end of ~~the~~ said speaker to ~~the~~ said wide end of ~~the~~ said speaker.

12. (Currently Amended) A voice amplifier for attachment to a mask, ~~the~~ said voice amplifier comprising: a base; a speaker supported on ~~the~~ said base; and a cover connected with ~~the~~ said base to form a housing enclosing ~~the~~ said speaker, ~~the~~ said cover having a front wall with a front surface facing away from ~~the~~ said mask when ~~the~~ said voice amplifier is attached to ~~the~~ said mask; ~~the~~ said speaker having a wide end and a narrow end, ~~the~~ said narrow end of ~~the~~ said speaker ~~being~~ located closer to ~~the~~ said front wall of ~~the~~ said cover than the wide end, ~~the~~ said cover front wall having a profile that follows ~~the~~ a profile of ~~the~~ said speaker in a direction from ~~the~~ said narrow end of ~~the~~ said speaker to ~~the~~ said wide end of ~~the~~ said speaker, said wide end of said speaker having a front face that faces inwardly of said mask when said voice amplifier is attached to said mask.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier ~~as set forth in~~ according to claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ said speaker has a conical or frustoconical configuration centered on an axis and ~~the~~ said cover front wall has a profile that mimics ~~the~~ said speaker configuration above ~~the~~ said axis of ~~the~~ said speaker.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 12, further comprising an on/off switch assembly including a magnetic actuator that is located on an outer front surface of ~~the~~ said cover facing away from the mask, and a magnetically actuated switch located inward of ~~the~~ said cover.

15. (Currently Amended) A voice amplifier for attachment to a mask, ~~the~~ said voice amplifier comprising: a sound reflector; a base connected with ~~the~~ said sound reflector; a cover having an outer surface portion facing away from ~~the~~ said mask; ~~the~~ ; a circuit board; and a speaker positioned between said cover and said sound reflector, said cover being attached to ~~the~~ said base to form with ~~the~~ said base a housing; ~~a~~ for said speaker ~~located within the housing; and a~~ said circuit board located within ~~the~~ said housing at a location that is not ~~between the speaker and the outer surface portion of the cover~~ behind a magnet assembly of said speaker, said speaker having a front face that faces inwardly of said mask when said voice amplifier is attached to said mask.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 15, wherein ~~the~~ said speaker faces toward ~~the~~ said sound reflector and has a portion closest to ~~the~~ said sound reflector, and ~~the~~ said circuit board is located within the housing at a location outward of ~~the~~ said speaker portion closest to ~~the~~ said sound reflector.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 16, further comprising an on/off switch assembly including a magnetic actuator that is located on ~~the~~ said outer surface of ~~the~~ said cover facing away from ~~the~~ said mask.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 17, wherein ~~the~~ said on/off switch assembly also includes a magnetically actuated switch located on ~~the~~ said circuit board inward of ~~the~~ said cover.

19. (Currently Amended) A voice amplifier for attachment to a mask, ~~the~~ said voice amplifier comprising: a housing including a base and a cover; an on/off switch assembly including a magnetically actuatable switch and a magnetic actuator; an amplifier inside ~~the~~ said housing for amplifying a signal received from a microphone, ~~the~~ said amplifier being controlled by ~~the~~ said magnetically actuatable switch; and a speaker connected with ~~the~~ said amplifier inside ~~the~~ said housing, ~~the~~ said speaker converting ~~the~~ said signal received from ~~the~~ said amplifier into sound waves, said speaker having a front face that faces inwardly of said mask when said voice amplifier is attached to said mask.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 19, wherein ~~the~~ said magnetic actuator is supported on a movable member on ~~the~~ said cover for movement between a first position and a second position, and ~~the~~ said magnetically actuated switch is located on a circuit board inside ~~the~~ said housing, ~~the~~ said magnetically actuated switch moving between an on condition and an off condition in response to movement of ~~the~~ said magnetic actuator between ~~the~~ said first position and ~~the~~ said second position.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 20, wherein ~~the~~ said magnetically actuated switch is a reed switch.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 19, wherein ~~the~~ said magnetic actuator is pivotable within a range of movement between an on position and an off position and is mounted on ~~the~~ said front of the voice amplifier.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 19, wherein ~~the~~ said magnetic actuator is mounted on ~~the~~ said front of the voice amplifier.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 19, wherein ~~the~~ said magnetic actuator is mounted on ~~the~~ said front of the voice amplifier and is pivotable within a range of movement between an on position and an off position, and ~~the~~ said magnetically actuated switch is located on a circuit board inside ~~the~~ said housing, ~~the~~ said magnetically actuated switch moving between an on condition and an off condition in response to movement of ~~the~~ said magnetic actuator between ~~the~~ said first position and ~~the~~ said second position.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier according to claim 19, including a sound reflector having a reflector surface that faces outwardly of ~~the~~ said mask when the voice amplifier is attached to ~~the~~ said mask, said base being connected with ~~the~~ said sound reflector; and ~~the~~ said speaker being supported on ~~the~~ said base and facing inwards towards said reflector surface.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The voice amplifier as set forth in claim 19, comprising a sound reflector, said base being connected with ~~the~~ said sound reflector, ~~said~~ a cover having an outer surface portion facing away from ~~the~~ said mask, said voice amplifier further comprising a circuit

board located within ~~the~~ said housing at a location not between ~~the~~ said speaker and ~~the~~ said outer surface portion of ~~the~~ said cover.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~A voice amplifier as set forth in claim 19 wherein~~ A voice amplifier for attachment to a mask, said voice amplifier comprising a housing including a base and a cover, an on/off switch assembly including a magnetically actuatable switch and a magnetic actuator, an amplifier inside said housing for amplifying a signal received from a microphone, and a speaker connected with said amplifier inside said housing, said amplifier being controlled by said magnetically actuatable switch, said speaker converting said signal received from said amplifier into sound waves, ~~the~~ said cover ~~has~~ having a front wall with a front surface facing away from ~~the~~ said mask when ~~the~~ said voice amplifier is attached to ~~the~~ said mask, ~~the~~ said speaker ~~has~~ having a wide end and a narrow end, ~~the~~ said narrow end of ~~the~~ said speaker being located closer to ~~the~~ said front wall of ~~the~~ said cover than ~~the~~ said wide end, ~~and the~~ said cover front wall ~~has~~ having a profile that follows ~~the~~ said profile of ~~the~~ said speaker in a direction from ~~the~~ said narrow end of ~~the~~ said speaker to ~~the~~ said wide end of ~~the~~ said speaker.

28. (New) A voice amplifier for attachment to a mask, said voice amplifier comprising a speaker having a front face that faces inwardly of said mask when said voice amplifier is attached to said mask; a sound reflector having a reflector surface that faces outwardly of said mask when said voice amplifier is attached to said mask, said front face of said speaker facing towards said reflector surface of said sound reflector, said front face of said speaker designed to generate sound waves that travel toward said reflector surface, said reflector surface designed to reflect said sound waves

generated from said speaker back toward said speaker and outwardly from said mask when said amplifier is attached to said mask.

29. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 28, including a circuit board, said circuit board not positioned behind a magnet assembly of said speaker.

30. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 29, wherein said circuit board is not positioned forwardly of said front face of said speaker.

31. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 28, including a cover, said cover having an outer surface portion facing away from said mask when said voice amplifier is connected to said mask, said speaker positioned between said cover and said sound reflector.

32. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 29, including a cover, said cover having an outer surface portion facing away from said mask when said voice amplifier is connected to said mask, said speaker positioned between said cover and said sound reflector.

33. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 31, including a base at least partially positioned between said cover and said sound reflector, at least one peripheral gap exists between said sound reflector and said base such that sound waves emitted from said speaker are at least partially reflected off said sound reflector and exit through said peripheral gap.

34. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 32, including a base at least partially positioned between said cover and said sound reflector, at least one peripheral gap exists between said sound reflector and said base such that sound waves emitted from said speaker are at least partially reflected off said sound reflector and exit through said peripheral gap.

35. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 33, wherein said speaker is at least partially supported on said base when said voice amplifier is attached to said mask.

36. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 34, wherein said speaker is at least partially supported on said base when said voice amplifier is attached to said mask.

37. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 36, wherein said cover at least partially clamps said speaker to said base when said voice amplifier is attached to said mask.

38. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 33, wherein said base includes a power housing designed to hold a power supply, said power supply designed to power at least one component of said voice amplifier.

39. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 38, wherein said power housing includes a removable cover to enable replacement of a power supply contained in said power housing.

40. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 28, including a switch and a movable switch actuator mounted on said front of said voice amplifier.

41. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 37, including a switch and a movable switch actuator mounted on said front of said voice amplifier.

42. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 40, wherein said switch is a magnetically actuated switch and said switch actuator is a movable magnetic switch actuator.

43. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 31, including a switch and a movable switch actuator mounted on said front of said voice amplifier, said switch located in a recessed cavity on said outer surface portion of said cover.

44. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 41, including a switch and a movable switch actuator mounted on said front of said voice amplifier, said switch located in a recessed cavity on said outer surface portion of said cover.

45. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 31, wherein said speaker has a wide end and a narrow end, said narrow end of the speaker is located closer to said cover than said wide end of said speaker, said cover having an inner surface portion that has a profile that follows a profile of said speaker in a direction from said narrow end of said speaker to said wide end of said speaker.

46. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 44, wherein said speaker has a wide end and a narrow end, said narrow end of the speaker is located closer to said cover than said wide end of said speaker, said cover having an inner surface portion that has a profile that follows a profile of said speaker in a direction from said narrow end of said speaker to said wide end of said speaker.

47. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 33, wherein said base includes an opening positioned at least partially in front of said front face of said speaker when said voice amplifier is attached to said mask, said opening in said base designed to allow said sound waves emitted from said speaker to pass through said opening, contact said sound reflector and then be at least partially reflected off said sound reflector.

48. (New) The voice amplifier according to claim 46, wherein said base includes an opening positioned at least partially in front of said front face of said speaker when said voice amplifier is attached to said mask, said opening in said base designed to allow said sound waves emitted from said speaker to pass through said opening, contact said sound reflector and then be at least partially reflected off said sound reflector.